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Bonita Well Windmill

Identification:

Preferred Structure Name: Bonita Well Windmill

Structure Number: HS03D

Other Structure Name(s):

Other Structure Name(s)

No records.

Park: Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

Historic District:

Historic District

1. Gray Family Partnership

Structure State: Arizona

Structure County: Pima

Region: Intermountain
Cluster: Southwest

Administrative Unit: Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

LCS ID: 056721

Historical Significance:

National Register Status: Determined Eligible - SHPO

National Register Date: 09/26/1995

Local

National Historic Landmark?:

No

Short Significance Description:

Significance Level:

The Bonita Well Windmill, Organ Pipe NM, was determined eligible for the NR as contributing structure to potential district, at the local level, for Criteria A, Sonoran Desert Cattle Ranching; & B, assoc'n w/Robert Louis Gray, Sr. Period of significance, 1919-1976.

Long Significance Description:

The Bonita Well Windmill, Organ Pipe NM, was determined eligible for the NR as a contributing structure to a potential historic district, Gray Family Partnership Historic District, at the local level of significance, under NR Criteria A, Sonoran Desert Cattle Ranching; and B, association with Robert Louis Gray, Sr., "the quintessential frontier cattleman" of the area.

The windmill is located at one of the fifteen ranches and line camps in the Gray family cattle business which dominated the lands of Organ Pipe National Monument for nearly 60 years. The Grays, Robert Louis, Sr., and sons Robert, Jr., Henry, and Jack, began the trend of buying up water rights, ranches and line camps in 1919. They utilized the open range via a trigger gate to lure their cattle to water in their corrals at round-up time. Period of significance, 1919-1976.

The Determination of Eligibility for the Bonita Well Windmill was signed by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer on September 26, 1995.

Construction Period:

Construction Period:

Historic

Chronology:

		Begin			
Physica	I Begin	Year	End	End Year	Designer
Event	Year	AD/BC	Year	AD/BC	Designer Occupation
1. Built	1930	AD	1939	AD	

Function and Use:

Primary Historic Function: Irrigation Facility

Primary Current Use: Vacant/Maintained (Mothballed)

Structure Contains Museum

Collections?:

No

Other Functions or Uses:

Other Function(s) or Use(s)	Historic or Current
1. Livestock	Historic

Physical Description:

Square Feet:

Material(s):

Structural Component(s) Material(s)			
1. Superstructure	Metal		
2. Substructure	Concrete		

Short Physical Description: Nearly Intact windmill complete w/ pipe from well to trough in corral.

> Aeromotor windmill on metal frame w/ 5'6" sq. base w/ ladder. Blades have fallen to the ground, pipes inside tower are no longer connected top and bottom. Well beneath framed out in concrete, poured out to anchor tower

legs.

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Long Physical Description: An almost intact windmill complete with pipe leading from the well below it ot

> the trough in the nearby corral. It is an Aeromotor windmill set on a metal Aframe with a 5' 6" square base. Blades have fallen to the ground, pipes within tower are no longer connected top and bottom. The legs of the tower are set in concrete. The well beneath the windmill is framed with concrete.